DC
BATMAN: REBORN
BATWOMAN in
DETECTIVE
COMICS
855
SEP
2009
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
GREG
RUCKA
J.H.
WILLIAMS III
SECOND FEATURE
The QUESTION
DIRECT SALES
$3.99 US
DCCOMICS.COM

WRITER

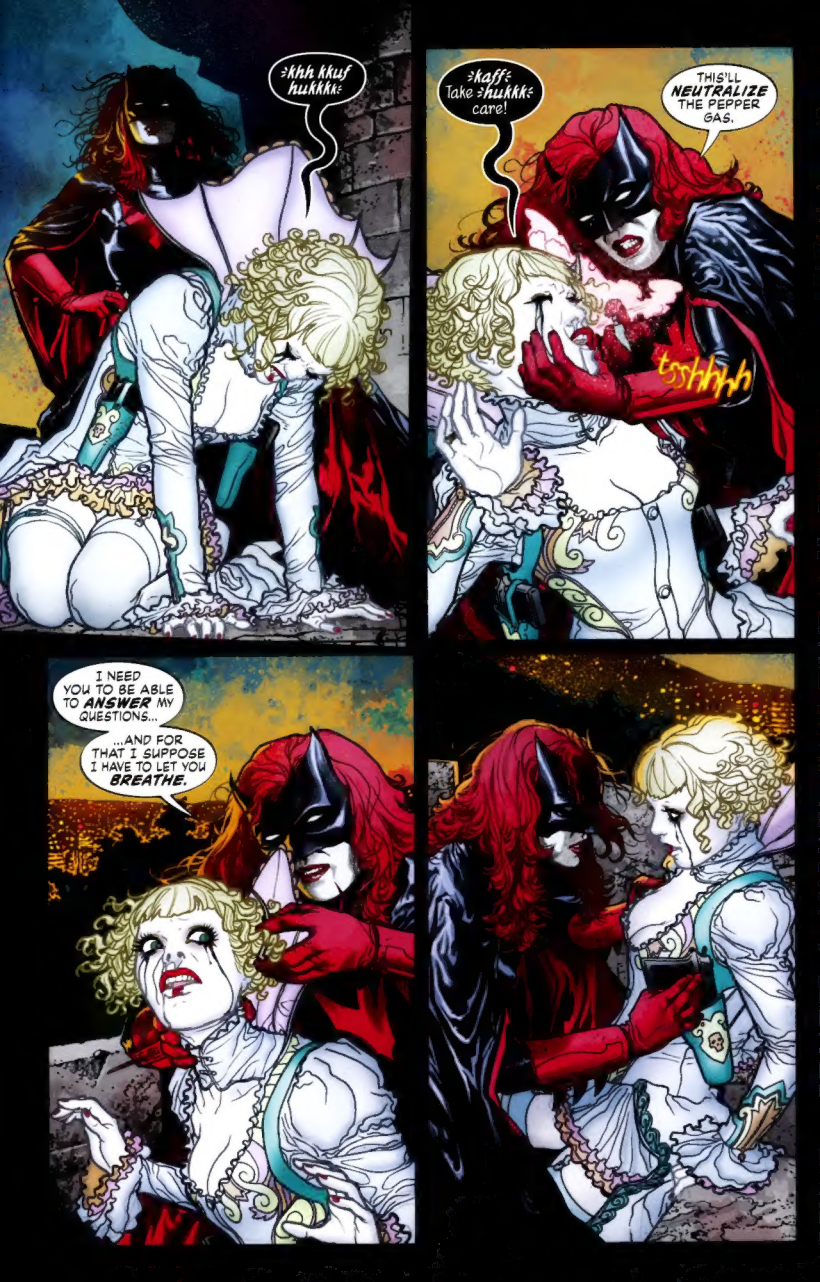
GREG RUCKA

J.H. WILLIAMS III

ARTIST

...YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH OF IT LEFT.
THE HIGH MADAME--
--PROTECT HER--
shkk chkk kaff kaf kafff
ELEGY PART 2 - MISTERIO 50
HUK!
nhgHH!
UNFFF!
DAVE STEWART: colors
TODD KLEIN: letters
HARVEY RICHARDS: assistant editor
MICHAEL SIGLAIN: editor
J.H. WILLIAMS III: cover
Batman created by Bob Kane

P-THOOSH
TWANG
TINK CLUK INK
NNNH!


:khh khuf huhkkk:
:kaff: Take :huhkkk: care!
THIS'LL NEUTRALIZE THE PEPPER GAS.
tsshhhh
I NEED YOU TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS...
...AND FOR THAT I SUPPOSE I HAVE TO LET YOU BREATHE.

Please, would you tell me -kaff- what you *call* yourself?
YOU DAMN WELL KNOW WHAT I CALL MYSELF.
YOU PEOPLE TRIED TO **KILL** ME.

I WANT TO KNOW **WHY**.
I WANT TO KNOW WHY I **MATTER** TO YOUR MURDEROUS LITTLE CULT.
THNK

I haven't the **least** idea what you're talking about.

WRONG.
ANSWER.

TELL ME!
TELL ME WHY!!
I'm very sorry you've been annoyed.
I wonder if I shall fall right through the Earth!
WAIT, WHAT'RE YOU--
After such a fall as this, I shall think nothing of tumbling downstairs.
WHY, DAMMIT?!
WHY DO I MATTER TO YOU PEOPLE?!?
I think you might do something better with the time, than wasting it asking riddles that have no answers.
...WAIT, THAT'S... THAT'S FROM LEWIS CARROLL--
--YOUR NAME'S ALICE? IS THAT WHAT YOU SAID?
Very much indeed.
THE NEW HIGH MADAME--THE NEW LEADER--OF THE RELIGION OF CRIME...
...IS A LUNATIC WHO THINKS SHE'S ALICE PLEASANCE LIDDELL?

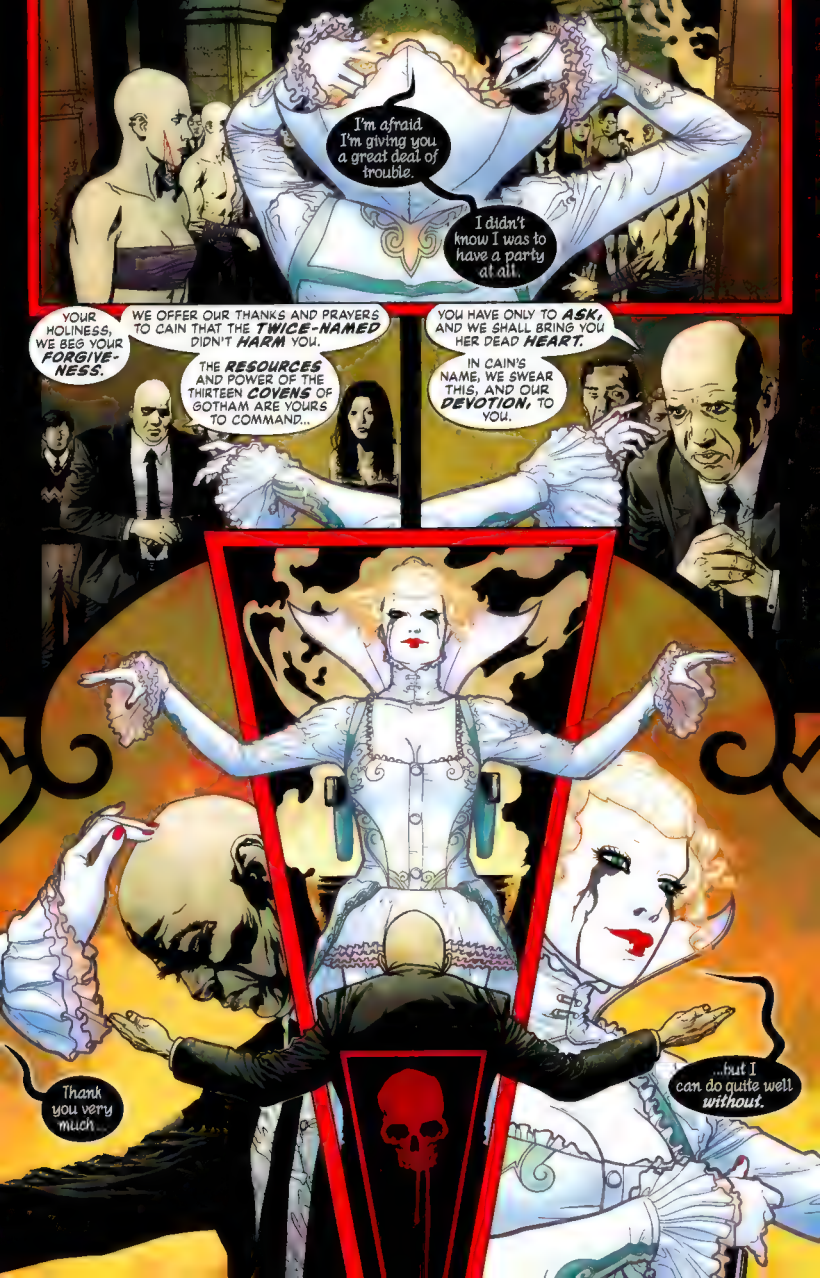
How do you know I'm mad?
MAYBE BECAUSE YOU SPEAK FLUENT CRAZY.
DIDN'T ANYONE GIVE YOU THE MEMO? GOTHAM ALREADY HAS ONE CARROLL-INSPIRED FREAK.
I don't think I can be of any use to him.
THE HIGH MADAME, SHE'S UP HERE--
crrrkk
WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET.
KRK!
AHHH!!
YOU CALLED MY BLUFF, YOU KNEW I WOULDN'T DROP YOU...
...BUT I WILL GET MY ANSWER, AND I WILL SHUT YOU AND YOUR FREAKSHOW--
--DOWN--
:HNN$

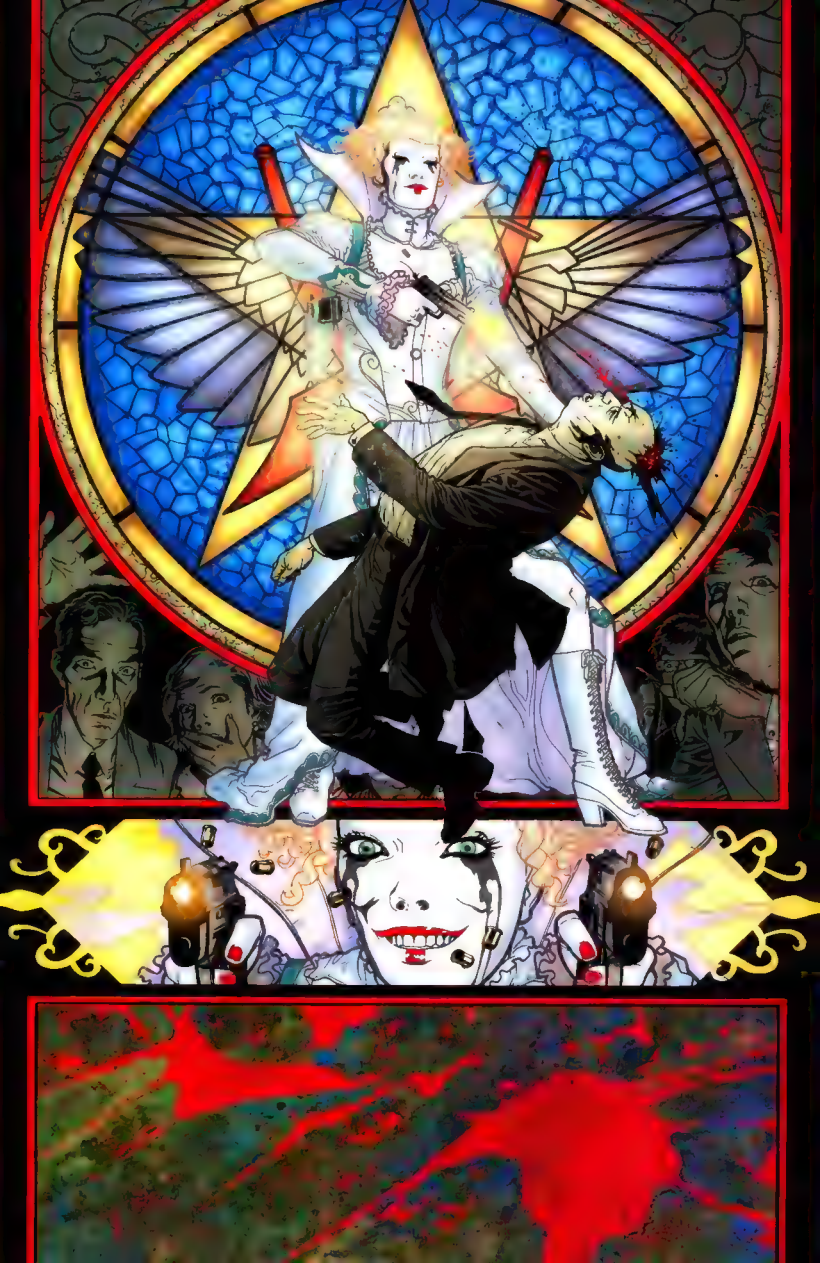
OKAY, THAT WAS JUST NASTY...
...HIDING A... RAZOR BLADE IN...IN YOUR MOUTH...
Indeed I did.
SHHKK!
...WAS POISONED...?
...NO... WONDER YOU...YOU'RE CRAZY...

I don't *like* belonging to another person's *dream*.
SHANK!
They're *dreadfully* fond of *beheading* people here...
...the great wonder is that there's *any* one left *alive!*
Well, *this* is grand.

Why, I do believe it's got wings!
MOVE, SOLDIER...
...MOVE...
MOVE
NNHFFF!
MOM?

KATE?
KATE, YOU BACK?
GPS TRACKING: ACTIVE
AUDIOFEED: RECORD ON
BIO SIGNS: WASTED
OH, GOD


I'm afraid I'm giving you a great deal of trouble.
I didn't know I was to have a party at all.
YOUR HOLINESS, WE BEG YOUR FORGIVE-NESS.
WE OFFER OUR THANKS AND PRAYERS TO CAIN THAT THE TWICE-NAMED DIDN'T HARM YOU.
THE RESOURCES AND POWER OF THE THIRTEEN COVENS OF GOTHAM ARE YOURS TO COMMAND...
YOU HAVE ONLY TO ASK, AND WE SHALL BRING YOU HER DEAD HEART.
IN CAIN'S NAME, WE SWEAR THIS. AND OUR DEVOTION, TO YOU.
Thank you very much...
...but I can do quite well without.



There's another little girl in the garden somewhere.
I see nobody on the road.
BATWOMAN CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR, MADAME.
I think that might help a little.
Wouldn't it be murder to leave it behind...?

NOT REAL. IT'S NOT
REAL
BATWOMAN!
KATE!
RENEE?
IT'S OKAY, BABY..
...I'VE GOT YOU, I'M RIGHT HERE...
COLONEL..?
..WAS POISONED SEEING THINGS
SEEING MOM...
I'm afraid you're not well.

KRAK
KRAK
COLONEL--
--GHHN!
HNH!
You...
...sha'n't be beheaded...
GET AWAY FROM HER!
I never was so ordered about before, in all my life--
grrrRRRRRWWWLLLL

I call it purring, not growling.
To be continued...

The Question
〈I'M THINKIN' YOU JUST BROKE INTO THE WRONG HOUSE, CHICA.〉
〈MAYBE, YOU VARGA?〉
SI.
〈THEN IT WAS THE RIGHT HOUSE.〉
PIPELINE
CHAPTER ONE / PART TWO
〈SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH YOUR FACE.〉
〈SOMETHING'S GONNA BE WRONG WITH YOURS, YOU KEEP POINTING THAT SCATTERGUN AT ME.〉
〈HECTOR SOLIZ WANTS TO KNOW WHERE HIS SISTER IS, VARGA.〉
〈HECTOR SOLIZ SHOULD'VE LEARNED HIS LESSON.〉
〈SO NOW I GUESS WE GOTTA TEACH IT TO YOU, TOO.〉
〈GREAT.〉
〈I LOVE SCHOOL.〉

SO FAR, VARGA.
SHNFFF
...I HAVE TO ADMIT.
I'M NOT *LEARNING* ANYTHING *NEW.*
SHOK
ANY TIME

OOOH, NUNCHAKU...
VERY NICE...
MAY I?
THANKS.
<GET HER!>
<ATTACK!>

〈DOG'S A QUICK LEARNER...〉
〈 WHAT ABOUT YOU?〉
CRACK
TSK.
AHH!
〈LET'S REVIEW, SHALL WE?〉
〈WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?〉

‹...MY NOSE...›
‹...BROKE MY NOSE YOU--›
‹TEACHER DIDN'T CALL ON YOU, VARGA.›
‹WHERE'S HECTOR, SISTER?›
‹WHERE'S LOUISA?›
‹HKC CAN'T HNK B-BREATHE›
‹THEN YOU BETTER ANSWER ME WITH THE BREATH YOU HAVE LEFT.›
‹OR YOU MIGHT NOT BE GETTING ANY MORE BREATH AT ALL.›
‹HNN-NH S-SENT HER HRK T-TO CHANDLESS KHK›

"...CHANDLESS SHRKE HA-HANDLES SHIPPING..."
DIRECTORY
Your Selection
PARDON ME...
...MY NAME'S MONTOYA. I'M HERE TO SEE MR. CHANDLESS.
GHC EXPORTS, LLC.
I DON'T SEE YOUR NAME FOR AN APPOINTMENT, MISS MONTOYA.
OH, THAT'S UNFORTUNATE...
...VARGA SAID I SHOULD TRY TO SEE HIM TODAY. IT'S SOMEWHAT PRESSING.
MR. VARGA? WELL, IF IT'S URGENT...
...I SHOULDN'T DO THIS, BUT I GUESS IT'S OKAY IF YOU GO ON BACK.
IT'LL BE OUR SECRET.

NO. YOU NEVER GIVE OUT MY NAME! WAS SHE A COP?

TO BE CONTINUED!

CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!

For months now we've been telling folks that BLACKEST NIGHT is a wild mix of space adventure and horror, the likes of which haven't been seen in comics in a very long time. And given the reaction we've been getting to the first issue, I think the incredible team of **Johns** and **Reis** has succeeded in exciting and scaring the fans way beyond our wildest expectations (which says a lot since I have very wild expectations). And the best part? That was only issue one, and those boys are just getting started. For months I have been asked by fans at the various conventions which of their favorite characters they can expect to see in BLACKEST NIGHT, so for you fans of the Hawks and the Dibnys, at least now you have your answers. And for you vocal Aqua-fans, underwater shenanigans of the blackest kind are waiting for you in issue two.

But why stop there?

The story that Geoff has composed, as I have always said, is just too big to be contained in one miniseries, and starting in August three important Blackest Night tie-in series will premiere and will feature old friends and family members coming back in ways you least expect. In BLACKEST NIGHT: BATMAN, Dick Grayson's Batman faces some of Bruce's most deadly (and dead) villains while fighting off some big-top horror with the help of a more friendly (albeit temporary) spirit. Over in BLACKEST NIGHT: TITANS, Beast Boy reunites with a dead girlfriend, and Donna Troy attends a family reunion of the darkest kind. And last, in BLACKEST NIGHT: SUPERMAN, we find that the rising dead aren't from only this universe as the one man who can challenge Kal-El goes calling on The Man of Steel. Not for the faint of heart.

So brace yourself: the Blackest Night is upon us. It's a time when only the strong can survive, and as you are going to find out over the next few months, even that might not be enough.

Sounds like fun.

To be continued.... maybe.

DD

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A SPECIAL PREVIEW OF Adventure COMICS #1!
WHAT DID SUPERMAN DO?
I) WENT TO SMALLVILLE HIGH.
SMALLVILLE
MONDAY.
CHEMISTRY 101? UH, WHAT ELSE IS AVAILABLE?
HOME EC OR ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY?
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S THE SCIENCE OF BREEDING LIVESTOCK.
IT'S A VERY POPULAR CLASS.
BANG IN THERE
WELCOME TO CHEMISTRY 101.
CHEMISTRY 101 MR. JANSON
√ I) WENT TO SMALLVILLE HIGH.

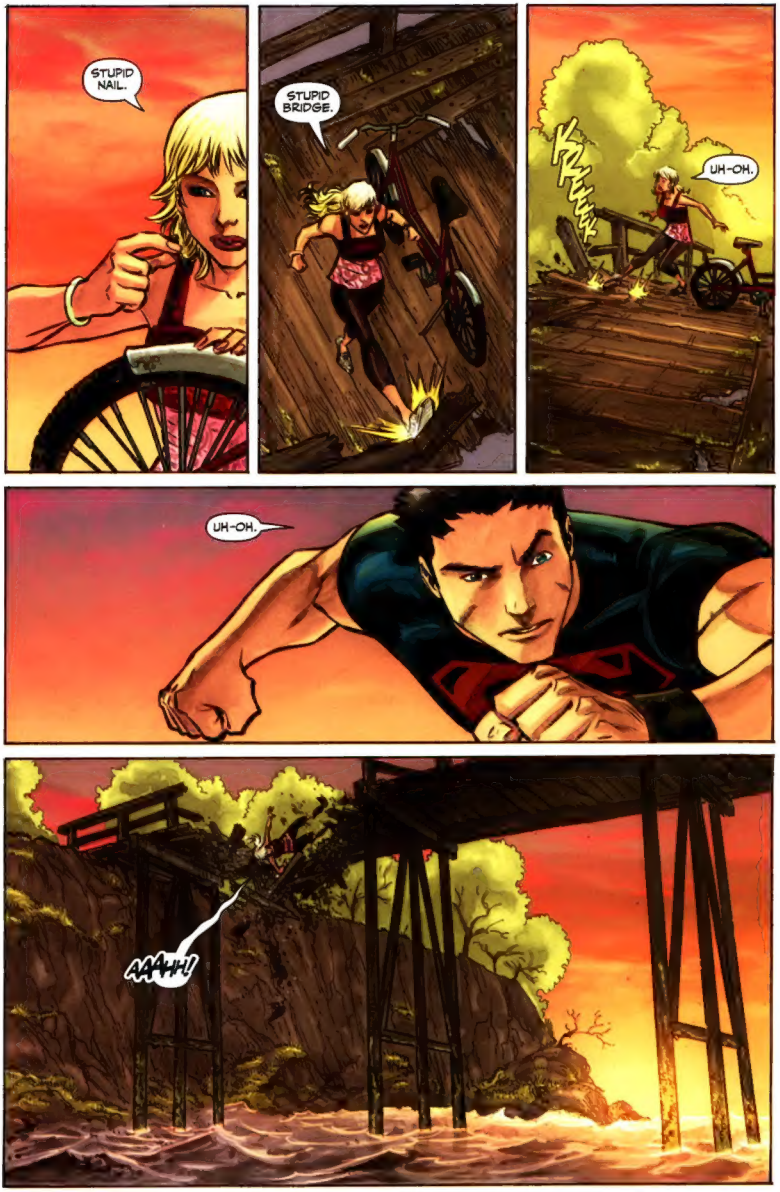
2) JOINED A TEAM OF SUPER-HEROES.

TUESDAY.

KRRKKDMM

A LITTLE SOMETHING TO LET THE BAD GUYS KNOW THE TEEN TITANS ARE GONNA BE STACKED AGAIN.
CAN YOU KNOCK DOWN MINE TOO? BUT USE HEAT VISION!
NO! FREEZE IT! FREEZE IT THEN SHATTER IT! THAT'S GONNA LOOK SO COOL IN SLOW-MO! YOU DO HAVE FREEZE BREATH NOW, RIGHT?
GOT EVERYTHING BUT, BART.
MAYBE YOU NEED TO VISUALIZE SOMETHING COLD.
OH, YOU KNOW WHAT'S COLD? THE BATHROOM FLOOR IN THE TOWER IN THE MORNING. THAT'S WHY I WEAR MY BOOTS TO BED.
√ 2) JOINED A TEAM OF SUPER-HEROES.

3) HELPED ANYONE WHO NEEDED IT.
TODAY.
...THIS ISN'T FAIR! I WAS GOOD ALL DAY!
I DIDN'T SLEEP IN CLASS! I DIDN'T SNEAK OUT OF DETENTION!
AND I WAS ONLY BORROWING THIS BIKE FROM SHELLY.
I WAS GOING TO RETURN IT.
IT MIGHT NOT BE KING SHARK OR DOCTOR LIGHT, BUT EVEN SUPERMAN GETS CATS OUT OF TREES.
AND THAT IS ONE CUTE CAT.


STUPID NAIL.
STUPID BRIDGE.
KRRRRK
UH-OH.
UH-OH.
AAAHH!

HOPE THIS CAT CAN SWIM.
WHAT DID SUPERMAN DO?
GEOFF JOHNS WRITER
FRANCIS MANAPUL ARTIST
STEVE WANDS LETTERER
BRIAN BUCCELLATO COLORIST
SEAN RYAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR
ELISABETH V. GEHRLEIN EDITOR
TO BE CONTINUED IN
Adventure COMICS #1,
ON SALE AUGUST 12th!

I HO SCANNED IT?

WHO CARES?

No one gives a crap who the scanner is except the scanner so stop worrying and just scan!

FRIENDLY SCANS EVERYBODY!

FEEL FREE TO USE THIS TAG IN YOUR OWN EGO FREE SCANS

Like it? - Buy it!

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